

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CERTIFYING THAT DATA  
RECEIVED OVER A COMPUTER NETWORK HAS BEEN  
CHECKED FOR VIRUSES**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for certifying that data sent from a computer is free from viruses  
5 identified by an anti-virus database. The method includes scanning data for  
viruses before it is sent from the computer and attaching a certificate identifying  
the data as being scanned for viruses if no viruses are found during scanning. The  
data is sent with the certificate from the computer to a recipient computer. A  
method for certifying that content available on a host site is free from viruses is  
10 also disclosed.